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AND JOURNAL OF THE ARTS.

"Our Home, Our Country, and Our Brother Man."

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THE FARMER.

E. HOLMES, Editor.

WHAT IS THE BEST POLICY FOR THE STATE TO PURSUE?

It is well known that the State is in debt to the amount of nearly a million and a half of dollars. In ordinary times, this amount, although large, would not be considered so very alarming. But as almost every other State is also in debt to a much greater amount, and the state of the money market being such as it is, it makes it exceedingly difficult to get funds to meet the payment of the demands as fast as they become due. Under this view of things it is a grave and important question what is the best policy of the State to pursue in order to keep up its credit and bring about such a healthy and active condition as will ensure a safe delivery from the troubles that are so heavily pressing upon us? The timid and cautious are for shutting down the gate, as the phrase is, upon every expenditure. They are for retrenching in every possible way and form; hardly sparing enough from the treasury in the form of bounties or Legislative encouragements, to give even a feeble spring to the several interests which require it. Now we think that there is a wide difference between prudence and parsimony. The former would take a common sense view of things, and in farmer's phrase, keep the whole team at work, and aid it by every means of sustenance, and encouragement that would keep it in its best productive condition. The latter would withold "more than is meet," grudging the smallest pittance that even necessity calls for, and while reducing expenditures, retrench so rigidly that all productive strength and energy would be totally exhausted. A heavy State tax is to be imposed upon us. This is undoubtedly necessary at this time. But who pays the most of it? The farmers—those who are part and parcel of the landed interest. And as is always the case when the country is in trouble, they are called upon most loudly, and taxed the most heavily to meet the dangers and bear up the burdens. It would seem that this class, so useful and convenient in times of need, should receive especial attention in times of prosperity. Does the history of most of the States in the Union, and especially of this, prove this to be the case? By no means. The very reverse is found to be the fact. For a brief period it is true, our State appeared to be rousing from the usual Legislative apathy in regard to the farming interest. But the troubles on the frontier occuring, these were docked off very quickly in order that more money might be had for the *sinews of war*. The ploughshare and pruning hook had to take their usual stand in the back ground, while the sword and spear again became "Lords of the ascendant."—The Geological Survey was suspended—the wheat bounty nullified—the proposition for further encouragement to Agricultural Societies rejected with scorn, and now the bounty hitherto offered for wolves &c. has been withheld. Now it is exceedingly questionable to us, whether this is the true policy to be pursued.—Encourage by every possible legislative aid those upon whom you mostly depend. Encourage them—raise them up—put them in the foremost rank. Continue your Geological Survey. Whatever some may think or say in regard to it, it has not only brought to light more resources than we ever dreamed of possessing, and been the means of embodying more facts in regard to our mineralogical riches than could otherwise have been obtained, and more than this, it has given us a name and a character abroad which we could not have otherwise gained, and although but a small part of the resources developed are at this moment being worked, yet it is a satisfaction to know that we have them. It makes us more contented than we should be if ignorant of their existence.

Let further aid be given to agricultural societies. We have found that those who live in parts of the State where there are none, are, as a general thing, opposed to them, while those who live where there is an active one, are loud in their praise and active in their support. This proves them to be useful. And why shouldn't they be? Mind is roused and strengthened by coming into collision with mind. Knowledge is gained by an interchance of ideas and opinions.—Improvement made by seeing and knowing what already exists and what is wanting; and what better way to promote all these than by the annual cattle shows and fairs, which bring together in close contact, as it were, the farmers and mechanics—each with something to exhibit, something to say and a desire to learn. Instead of withholding, or giving upon terms with which few can comply—the State should bestow in such a way and manner that every County at least, if not smaller sections, should have its active and efficient Agricultural Society. The money is not lost. It is like manure spread upon the soil—it enriches—enlivens—exhilarates and supports the zeal and energies of all that come in contact with it.

There should be a thorough Agricultural Survey. By this would be collected in one volume as it were, the statistics of farming—facts—telling what we as a farming community *have done—are doing, and are capable of doing*. The improvements in one section would thus be made known to another—errors be exposed and rectified—false theories exploded, and the experience of practical men made known and disseminated throughout the entire length and breadth of the State. These are some of the items of the policy which we contend should be pursued by a State, even if it be embarrassed as ours is. Make known your resources, make known your strength. Let the world know who you are and what you are about. The same policy will hold good (other things being equal) in a State as well as in individuals, and we put the question to you; Of two farmers equally embarrassed by the same amount of debt, which had you rather loan money to,—him who strives hard to make himself thoroughly acquainted with the character of his farm and labors to open and develope and bring into play every productive resource that he can find, or him who sits down in despondency—who by way of retrenchment will not plough so much as he ought, will not search out the properties of his soil—in short will do nothing but murmur and reproach this one and that one with being the author of his troubles, and end with a grand anathema against his neighbors and the times? There can be little doubt which would be in the best credit and which would be most likely to retrieve his affairs the soonest.

RAISING ROOT CROPS AND LAYING DOWN TO GRASS, IN THE SAME SEASON.—It has been remarked by experienced men that those crops which mature or ripen seeds are the most exhausting, and that hence the grasses which are mowed before seeding, or are pastured, and also root crops are said to be ameliorating.

Might not the following rotation for a two shift system be a good one, viz: root crops and clover. First year plant roots, say potatoes—after they are dug, plough, harrow and sow on clover and other grass seed. These would not probably vegetate until next spring, when a good crop might be expected. We have generally been in the habit of thinking it necessary to cultivate some grain crop in order to lay our lands down to grass. We think the above plan would work well.

The Editor of the Maine Farmer, is in ecstacies from having seen a lady covering a board to iron shirt bosoms on. We know something better than that. A gent of our acquaintance has concluded to dispense with those extra or starched bosoms and take *the papers*, and instead of *clothing boards* his wife reads them.—*Gardiner Spectator.*

Reads the boards, friend Spec? She must have a bright eye of her own.

METEOROLOGY.

MR. HOLMES:—About two years ago a communication appeared in the Maine Farmer, copied from the Genesee, under the caption of "Notes by the way," in which were some remarks on the cause of untimely frosts, &c. Since that time I have been a strict observer of those facts which attended this phenomena which appeared to be the most important in elucidating its causes and effects. The result of these observations has been a thorough conviction in my mind of the fallacy of the opinions advanced by the intelligent editor of that paper, as well as many others who have written on this subject.

A short time since I wrote a communication on the formation of dew, which is forwarded with this, in which I intimated my intentian to add some remarks on the deposition of frost. But I find on reflection my remarks will take a wider range than I then anticipated; so that I have concluded to write under a caption allowing a wider scope, and imbuing the theory of the formation of snow, frost, anchor and common ice; and also some other mothers necessarily connected with these formations.

From the fact, that, in ascending high mountains we uniformly find the temperature of the atmosphere growing harder, until, even in Equatorial regions, we reach the region of snow and ice, and the absence of all vegetation, I had concluded the same temperature would be found at the same horizontal level over plains and vallies. But a close scrutiny has compelled me to alter this opinion and come to the conclusion that the different strata of air at different heights, are perpetually alternating; and that sometimes when it is severely cold on plains and in vallies, it is comparatively mild above, and so vice versa.

I think that any person who has carefully noticed the appearance of aqueous vapor, visible in the form of clouds, must have noticed the strikingly different appearance of it immediately before the descent of snow. We frequently observe, especially in autumn and spring the formation and descent of large quantities from the higher regions, when the atmosphere is so warm near the earth as to melt it as fast as it falls. On the other hand we may see, when the wind blows keenly cold below, the clouds above indicate nothing in their appearance of snow in their formation. We have as good reason to believe they consist wholly of uncongealed aqueous vapor as we hold that the land scud or fog we see sometimes driving along near the surface of the earth is the same vapor.

The sides and summits of mountains form a nucleus around which appear to concentrate those agents which form snow in profusion and from which we frequently see it spread over the vallies below. So true is this, we seldom see it begin to snow in the neighborhood where I live without commencing first about the summit of Black mountain (so called) some three or four miles distant to the south; and we know very well from the appearance of the clouds whether to expect snow or rain. What the cause of this is, I pretend not to say; but the fact that snow does form in such places more than over plains and vallies, I think will neither be doubted or denied.

Though I believe it is generally admitted that frost

and snow are formed by the same agency, I am constrained to believe there is an essential difference in the process by which nature forms them. Snow, as I observed is formed most plentifully on the summits and sides of mountains,—frost, in vallies and on plains. Snow, falls earliest in autumn and latest in spring on mountains—frost, in vallies and plains.—And besides these peculiarities, snow and frost have very different effects on vegetation. Snow, may fall in large or small quantities on growing vegetables and go off by melting in the sunbeams or otherwise and no injury ensue—frost, falling in small quantities and melting off in the sunbeams, kills some vegetables as qnick as a scorching fire. What produces these results is mystery to me, but such is the case and there must be a cause, and one producing decisive effects, as we plainly see.

Another peculiarity in the formation of frost and snow is they never are both formed at the same time. When vapor accumulates in the higher regions of the air so as to form clouds, neither dew or frost are formed below. Whether dew or rain have propensities producing a different effect on vegetation when falling in the same quantities, I believe we have no decisive proof.

But whatever the process may be, by which either frost or snow are formed, the former is more especially interested in the productions of frost, because it effects one generally much more disastrous. It prostrates his young vegetables in the spring, and nips his unripened fruits in early autumn by its untimely intrusion. It is a favorite idea with some that the different capacities, of different substances on the surface of the earth for receiving and radiating caloric, is the most efficient agent in producing the deposit of dew and frost. I have sought in vain for the proof of this in the volume of nature. I have uniformily found those places most subject to untimely frosts to be most uniform in temperature, and whatever capacities they might possess in consequence of color or texture of the soil for receiving on radiating caloric, entirely overbalanced by the aqueous matter in the soil. Again it is said grass radiates heat faster than sand or gravel, hence dew is found deposited on grass when none is found on gravel and sand. But why is it that as soon as dew is changed to frost, this same gravel or sand shows a greater deposit of frost than the grass by the road side? I have noticed this fact within two years, perhaps, in a hundred instances, and never in a single instance has it failed. J. H. J.

Peru, Jan., 1840. *(To be continued.)*

Original.

ANNUAL REPORT.

Bloomfield, Jan'y 21st 1840.

PHILIP C. JOHNSON Esq. *Secretary of State*:

Enclosed is a statement of the expenditures, the past year, by the Somerset Central Agricultural Society, specifying the objects for which premiums have been offered, and to whom they have been paid.—This Society which was incorporated in March 1838, held its first Cattle Show the first of November in the same year, and it was evident, from the large number of objects presented for premiums, and the immense gathering of people attracted by interest and curiosity, that the institution had taken a strong hold of the public mind. A second annual meeting for the Show of Animals and exhibtion of Manufactures was holden at Bloomfield on the first day of October 1839, and tho' it had ceased to be a novelty, the meeting was honored with an increased assembly of spectators, and a very respectable display of animals and fabrics presented for premiums. So long as the Trustees shall receive a like public countenance and support, they will feel a pride and pleasure in keeping up an Annual Cattle Show. Agricultural associations, wherever established, have had an efficient and salutary influence in introducing new modes of culture, new varieties of grain, seeds and roots, and new breeds of stock. Our own association, in its short career, has not been wholly inoperative in this respect. One member of this Society has imported from England, and now keeps stationed in this quarter for the use of mares, an English Stud Horse, which is said and believed to be a finished specimen of the modern improved English Coach Horses. "This animal (says the family Encyclopedia) has fully shared in the progress of improvement, and is as different from what he was fifty years ago, as it is possible to conceive. The principal points of the Coach Horse are, substance well placed, a deep and well proportioned body, bone under the knee, and sound, open, tough feet." In the course of last season, a large number of colts, sired by the abovementioned horse, have been foaled in this vicinity, and for size, shape and all useful qualities, promise an essential improvement in our breed of horses. Other members of this Society, the Messrs. Coburns, have recently, at considerable expense, introduced into this County, from the Province of New Brunswick, a full blooded English Polled Ram of the breed called "Leicester Sheep." The ram here mentioned appears to be of that variety called the Lincolnshire breed. They have (says the Family Encyclopedia) white faces and legs, their bones large and the carcase coarse; the back long and hollow, with flat ribs, but good loins and deep belly; forward loose shoulders, a heavy head, with a large neck, and sinking dewlap; the hind quarter broad, the legs standing wide apart, and a large dock. The Pelt is particularly thick, and the fleece consists of a very long combing wool, of rather coarse quality, but weighing from *twelve* to *fourteen* pounds on the wethers, and from *eight* to *ten* on the ewes.'

In the course of the year past, sundry members of the Society united in the purchase from abroad, of a Bull, of very superior quality, at the cost of one hundred and fifty dollars, and stationed him where the public could avail themselves of his services at a reasonable rate. Henry Lawrence Esq. a member of this Society, has procured from abroad another Bull, of the Devonshire Short Horn Breed, at the price of one hundred and twenty five dollars. The last named Bull is truly an extraordinary animal, and for largeness of size, and symmetry of shape, is the object of admiration to all who have seen him. Joseph S. Hilton, of Cornville, has recently brought into the County, from the Province of New Brunswick, a Boar of an entire new breed; which unites to mammoth size a due aptitude for fattening, and which promises a great improvement in our breed of swine.

A very general disappointment has been experienced the past season, in this vicinity, by such Farmers as laid out largely for a Wheat Crop. If they sowed early, the crop fell a prey to the ravages of the Grain Worm; if they sowed late, the crop was injured by the Rust. As far as our experience goes, both the bald and bearded varieties of Wheat are alike subject to attack from the Worm and the Rust. It is understood that the species of Wheat known by the name of Black Sea Wheat, is a much safer kind to cultivate than any other as yet known among us. Though sowed early and of course subject to injury from the Weevil, an alledged thickness and courseness of Hull are supposed to offer a partial protection to the kernel. But if sowed late, it is of course safe from the attacks of the Weevil, and yet is proof against the Rust. If this theory be correct, it is of incalculable importance that a due supply of the Black Sea Wheat should be speedily introduced among us. A few bushels of this Wheat have been already brought within the limits of our Society, and more are expected in season for sowing the coming season. The section of Country, included in the limits of our Association, being remote from the seaboard, agriculture is and must always be its leading interest and pursuit. Commerce, the fisheries and sundry other branches of national industry are powerfully and adequately protected, encouraged and supported by the General Government. In the several States it properly belongs to protect and to foster the Agriculture of the Country. In this behalf, the State of Maine has pursued a course of liberal policy highly honorable to the State and of praiseworthy example to the other Members of the National Confederacy. For ourselves, as participants of the public bounty, we make our grateful acknowledgements, and we cherish the belief that the small portion of the State's money, confided to our care, will be shewn, by time and experience, to have been usefully and profitably expended.

In behalf of the Somerset Central Ag. Society.

J. M'CLELLAN, *Cor. Secretary.*

Original.

The Root Culture may be made of more real advantage to the State of Maine than mines of gold would be, did she possess them.

MR. HOLMES:—The above is a truth, according to my belief, and if mistaken, you or some one of your numerous correspondents can, and I hope will correct me. Mr Webster says that seventy or eighty years ago the Turnip culture was introduced into England, and it has been extensively cultivated ever since.—What has the Turnip done for England? It is, with their straw, almost the sole winter food for their seventy or eighty millions of sheep, from which is derived the principal part of the material for the employment of their woolen manufactories, which give business to the merchants, custom house officers, surveyors, &c. who also give employment to their shipping and sailors, and thus taxes the whole civilized world to pay them. It is the fruitful source of the most of their revenue—supports their unfortunate poor, and their numerous gentry; and all this comes from and is the effect of the turnip culture. In Ireland the potato saves the lives of the inhabitants in numerous instances. In Scotland, it has been said, that since 1817, the entire and whole value of the country or kingdom has been doubled by the root culture. All this has been done; yet none possess more natural advantages for the business than the State of Maine.

The extensive culture of roots, for which our lands are so eminently adapted, would thicken our population,—content our youth to stay in the State,—foster a State pride and a love of husbandry,—rid the professional classes of their useless lumber, and give a spring to the State hitherto not felt. These, Mr Editor, are my opinions and belief; if I am in error, do set me right. E.

Original.

At some particular seasons of the year it is a very important thing to the farmer to be able to *divine* the weather in advance; as in the time of seeding or harvesting. There are two methods by which we can arrive at this knowledge without any considerable doubt about it; as first, by the use of a good Barometer by which we can note the state of the air: and second, by the use of the table here below. I have paid some little attention these two or three years to this table, and so far as I have observed, is so nearly right that it may be, in the main, relied on for correctness. The table was first formed, I believe, by Dr. Herschell; but as *here* given is somewhat altered founded by the long experience of Dr. Adam Clark, than whom a more critical observes never lived.

TABLE

For fortelling the Weather, through all the Lunations of each year, forever.

This table and the accompanying remarks are all the result of many years actual observation; the whole being constructed on a due consideration of the attraction of the sun and moon, in their several positions respecting the earth, and will by simple inspection show the observer what kind of weather will most probably follow the entrance of the moon into any of its quarters; and that so near the truth as to be seldom or never found to fail.

If the New Moon, the first quarter, the full moon, or the last quarter happens	*In Summer.*	*In Winter.*
Between midnight & 2 in the morning	Fair.	Hard frost, unless the wind is s.or w.
—2 & 4, morning	Cold, with frequent showers.	Snowy & stormy.
—4 " 6 "	Rain.	Rain.
—6 " 8 "	Wind and Rain.	Stormy.
—8 " 10 "	Changeable.	Cold rain if the wind be w., snow if E.
—10 " 12 "	Frequent show's.	Cold & high wind.
At 12 o'clock noon, & 2 P. M.	Very rainy.	Snow or rain.
Between 2 & 4PM	Changeable.	Fair and mild.
—4 & 6 "	Fair.	Fair.
—6 " 8 "	Fair, if wind N.W.	Fair & frosty, if
	Rainy, if s.or s.w.	wind be N. or N. E.
		Rain or snow, if
		S. or S. W.
—8 " 10 "	Do.	Do.
--10 " midnight	Fair.	Fair and frosty.

Observations.—1. The nearer the time of the moon's change, first quarter, full and last quarter, are to *midnight*, the fairer will the weather be during the seven days following.

2. The space for this calculation occupies from ten at night till two next morning.

3. The nearer to *mid day* or *noon*, the phases of the moon happen, the more foul or wet weather may be expected during the next seven days.

4. The space for this calculation occupies from ten in the forenoon, to two in the afternoon. These observations refer principally to the summer, though they affect spring and autumn nearly in the same ratio.

5. The moon's change, first quarter, full and last quarter, happening during six of the afternoon hours, i. e. from four to ten, may be followed by fair weather; but this is mostly dependent on the *wind*, as is noted in the table.

6. Though the weather, from a variety of irregular causes, is more uncertain in the latter part of autumn, the whole of winter, and the beginning of spring, yet, in the main, the above observations will apply to these seasons also.

7. To prognosticate correctly, especially in those cases where the wind is concerned, the observer should be in sight of a good *vane*, where the four cardinal points of the heavens are correctly placed.

West Sidney. B. F. W.

Original.

COLLECTION OF TAXES.

MR. HOLMES:—Although the subject indicated by my caption may not be directly connected with agriculture, yet it so intimately concerns all classes of people, the farmers together with the rest, that a few remarks upon the subject may not be deemed out of place in the columns of an agricultural paper.

The present method of collecting taxes, is, I think, liable to objections, and susceptable of improvements.

I refer to the mode of collection that is generally adopted. Some few towns have already a different and a better method, but improvement, in this respect, should be more general. In the usual way the burthen of supporting government falls very unequal. A collector is chosen, receives the bills of taxes for collection, calls on the inhabitants for the amount of taxes against each individual respectfully; some of whom, possessing that desirable trait of character, punctuality, immediately pay the amount, while others, by far the most numerous class, possessing that fashionabte, but detestable faculty of procrastinating, delay payment until the very afternoon of the year, if no longer.—The town Treasury being thus almost constantly out of funds, causes the accumulation of orders, and, if accepted by the treasurer, are increasing by means of interest, which interest must be paid by the inhabitants of a town, in proportion to their several liabilities, notwithstanding some have already paid their proportion of that money which would, if all would pay thus promptly cancel those orders.

Now a better method of collecting taxes, it would seem, is, for a town to choose an individual, who shall be both treasurer and collector, and authorized to make a certain discount to all those who will, of their own accord, pay, their taxes to him, prior to some specified time, and oblige all such as delay beyond that period, to pay the full amount. This would be, not only paying a "bounty" on punctuality, but distributing the burden of supporting government more equally. To procrastinate is becoming so universal a practice that, unless it be *heavily taxed*, instead of being *freed from taxes by it*, there will soon be nothing performed until *to-morrow*, which *never* comes.

I have thrown out these few hints at this time, in order that the subject may receive attention at the annual town meetings, which soon occur. O. P. Q.

East Winthrop, Feb'y, 1840.

Original.

SINGULAR MORTALITY AMONG CATTLE.

Mr Holmes:—Hearing that Capt. Elisha L Butler of this town had lost a number of neat cattle and hogs, in a very sudden and unaccountable manner, I went to his farm to see and hear for myself, and there learned the following particulars.

He turned his cattle from the barn on Sunday morning, and for any thing he then discovered he supposed they were all well. On returning from meeting in the afternoon he discovered something was the matter with a two year old heifer. She seemed in much distress, and he then supposed she was choaked. He immediately sent for a neighbor and they examined the heifer, and satisfied themselves that she was not choaked, but could not tell what was the matter with her. She grew worse and died in about one hour from the time he discovered any thing was the matter. They made a post-mortem examination, but could find no satisfactory cause of her death. They skinned the heifer and after that scraped up the straw she laid on and threw it over to his hogs, 2 in number, this was on Sunday evening and on Tuesday morning he discovered something the matter with them, they appeared just as the heifer did in the greatest distress and both died on Wednesday morning. In one or two days from this the remainder of his stock was tied up as usual at night and to all appearances well. The next morning a Spring calf was found dead, and without any perceptible cause. Since that time two cats that ate from the heifer first named have died, exhibiting the same symptoms as the cattle and hogs. And last of all the Captain himself was taken with a pain in one of his hands and arms, his arm swelled very much, and he was quite alarmed until Dr. Carey was called and informed him that his sickness was in no wise connected with his handling the deceased cattle. He is now fast recovering.

Now, Sir, as this is a new thing, at least in this community, can you give a name to the disease or in any manner account for it? H. W. O.

Wayne, Feb. 17th 1840.

Original.

Mr. Holmes:—If Galvanism has a tendency to promote vegetation, would not a sufficient quantity be produced from the shreds of tin plate, such as are usually thrown out of the tinner's shops, by placing a few of them in a hill, say of corn or potatoes? Would there not be a galvanic action maintained by the oxidation of the iron in contact with the tin? And would not the cinders thrown out of the blacksmith's forge have the same effect? It seems to me that these two substances might find a use for their idle moments instead of being heaped up by the roadside as a nuisance. Agricola.

There are now 2024 paupers in the Philadelphia Alms House, a larger number by four hundred, than has been within the walls of that institution in any previous winter, for several years.

DISEASES OF CATTLE.

(*Continued from our last.*)

The Committee will now direct the attention of the Society to a few remarks on some of the maladies of cattle most prevalent in this section of the country.

Fever. The symptoms of fever in cattle are dullness, drowsiness, dryness of the nose, loss of appetite, great heat at the root of the horn and quick pulse. The best place to feel the pulse is between the left elbow and the breast, by thrusting in the hand over the region of the heart. In health it numbers about 40 or 45 in grown cattle, and in fevers and inflammations, from 60 to 70 a minute. The root of the horns in malignant diseases and those of low action are cold, in inflammatory affections they are intensely hot. In fevers the remedies are bleeding, purging with salts and low diet, such as gruel or bran mashes. As to the measure of depletion, Youatt says, in inflammatory fever, when there are great heat & violent action of the heart, "*There must be no foolish directions about quantities, as much blood must be taken as can be got.*" The jugular vein in the neck is the preferable place for the operation—and a rope to compress the vein, and a sharp pointed pen knife, is all that is necessary. The practice of making the poor animal swallow his own blood, can serve no useful purpose, and ought to be stigmatized as barbarous and cruel in the extreme. Slow or Typhus Fever requires a modified treatment, in proportion as the inflammatory symptoms recede, we must be guarded in the use of the lancet, and all other means of reducing the strength and have recourse to strengthening medicines and stimulants, though with much caution; while the horns and mouth are hot and the pulse rapid, tonics would be poison. "*He* (the Veterinarian) *wants them not at all, he has to put out the fire not to feed it,*" in the emphatic and judicious language of Youatt.

The various inflammatory affections of the brain, lungs, throat, pleuræ, liver, stomach, intestines, kidneys, bladder, &c., are to be treated in the same manner, or at least, according to the same general principels,—the great difficuity lies in finding them out, and this can only be compassed by diligent and patient investigation.

Dysentery.—The symptoms of dysentery are too well known to require enumeration. if there be much fever or pain evident in voiding the excrement, or if the stools be bloody or slimy, *blood* should be drawn, afterwards a dose of *castor* or *linseed oil* from half a pint to a pint, and then calomel and opium to complete the cure. *Epsom Salts* and *Aloes*, though very useful purgatives in other diseases, are not so suitable in this, as they are liable to cause too much irritation,—the oils are smooth and soft to the inflamed surface of the intestines and effectually remove the offending matters which keep up the disease. The calomel and opium which should be administered in doses of one drachm each mixed in thick gruel, tranquillize the irritated bowels and restore the suspended secretions. The milder kind of dysentery, properly called diarrhœa or looseness, is readily cured by the oil and opium alone.

Hoove or Blown is the distention of the stomach by gas, and is generally occasioned by overfeeding on rich clover or potatoes. These green substance taken in such large quantities as not to be under the control of the stomach's action, are naturally subject to fermentation, and hence the extrication of gas, until the whole circulation of the abdomen is impeded by the pressure, and the paunch sometimes ruptured. Driving the animal about briskly has been very generally adopted as a means of getting rid of the gas, but this is often ineffectual, and besides there is some danger of rupture from the motion,—an incision in the left flank with a penknife, if no more suitable means, (such as a trocar) is at hand, should be immediately had recourse to, for in these cases the least delay is dangerous—by this means tne belly is emptied and the animal relieved—the probang, which will be described more particularly, presently, is also a very effectual remedy.

Choking of the Gullet by a potatoe not unfrequently happens in cattle, and is owing to the rapid and imperfect manner in which they chew their food the first time,—the *Probang* is a hollow tube of leather about four feet in length, with a stout piece of wire passed through it to keep it stiff, and is the best contrivance for pushing the potatoe down,—a long piece of whalebone, with a piece of sponge attached to the end, would perhaps answer the purpose nearly as well. If the obstructing body cannot be moved by gentle pushing with the probang, attempts should be made with the fingers externally to press it upwards, and in order to succeed, much gentleness and patience, with some tact, will be required,—when this has been persevered in for some time without success, the worm of a small cork-screw should be well fastened to the end of the probang, introduced into the throat, screwed into the potatoe, and carefully withdrawn.—As a last resource cutting down upon the body in the gullet, and liberating it through the wound, has been practised with success.

Wounds.—The Committee cannot help adverting to the common but most mischievous practice of applying stimulants and various kinds of corrosive substances,—such as blue vitriol, spirits of turpentine, alum, salt, saltpetre, &c. to fresh wounds in cattle.—The most virulent poisons are often thus ignorantly thrown into the flesh, with the effect of converting a simple flesh wound into a deep and dangerous ulcer—the only treatment such accidents require, is to bring the edges of the wound in contact, and keep them there by a stich or two, or adhesive plasters with a light bandage,—the best outward application is cold water applied by means of clothe, or wetting the bandages. If there should be much bleeding the vessels ought to be tied,—and if the parts are much bruised,—poultices and warm fomentations will be very useful. The animal should always be kept as still as possible. These simple means are all the assistance nature requires, who, if not thwarted, is then herself all-competent too the cure.

Sore Teats.—A very common and troublesome affection of milch cows, are sore teats,—it will be sufficient to say, that they should be kept dry, and milked with great tenderness, and an ointment of beeswax and lard in the proportion of one to three daily applied.

Garget.—Another and a worse affection of the bags of new milch cows, is an inflammation of the internal parts of one quarter of the udder and the corresponding teat, and consequent suppression of the flow of milk,—it is called garget,—in this case the parts affected are hot and painful to the touch, and no force can bring down the milk through the inflamed teat. It is a bad practice to attempt to force a passage by introducing a knitting needle or other instrument, as has been done by some. Such attempts only serve to aggravate the disease, by doing violence the udder without the slightest prospect of removing the supposed obstructions. I say supposed, for the evil originates higher up, where the milk is coagulated and by blocking up the passages, in the udder, causes inflammation; consequently no mechanical means can possibly reach it without piercing the substance or the udder, and thereby increasing the mischief.

The usual means for reducing inflammation should be resorted to. The cow should be bled, physiced, and warm fomentations applied to the bag,—then the calf may be allowed to draw the affected teat, and this seldom fails to complete the cure.

The Committee now proceed to notice some diseases of the skin, the most common of which are—

Lice.—It is a singular fact that these vermin are never found to infest the skin of healthy thriving animals, but as soon as they are reduced in flesh, from exposure to cold in winter or insufficient nourishment, they will often be covered with swarms. The only reason that can be adduced for this selection is, that all animals in a state of perfect health and condition, possess stronger vital powers, and are able more successfully to resist every noxious agent. The same observation holds true of the highest and lowest grades of living beings, commencing with man and proceeding down through all the intermediate stages to the vegetable creation. Scarce a plant exists but has its peculiar parisite or louse, which is sure to select the most sickly individual for its prey. When an animal is known to have lice, the precaution of keeping him from contact with other cattle ought not to be neglected. If this be not attended to, the most healthy and vigorous may in time become infected—and it is astonishing with what rapidity they propagate.—It is even said the whole work of reproduction does not occupy more than 24 hours.

The best remedy for these vermin is the blue mercurial ointment, and this should not be applied in its full strength, but one part of the ointment should be mixed up with four or five parts of lard, and a little well rubbed in on the thickest patches every day until the cure is accomplished.

The Committee cannot help warning the cattle owner against the use of the tobacco lotion, which they believe a very common remedy. Tobacco is one of the most destructive and violent of the vegetable poisons, and has produced death in the human subject in a quarter of an hour in doses of half a drachm or the 16th part of an ounce. Several fatal cases from its outward application to children's heads, are recorded from authentic sources.—*Mechanic and Farmer.*

(*To be continued.*)

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

ON DRAINING.

Mr Holmes :—If you are willing to give this communication an insertion in your useful paper, I will venture to obtrude some of my ideas relating to the subject of draining land upon the public notice, and trust to the importance of the subject for my apology. My mind was particularly called to this subject by reading in your paper (vide vol. 7 No. 51) a communication from a Young Farmer requesting your opinion how he should treat a certain part of his farm in order to make it more productive than it now is, on account of excessive moisture. And here with great respect for your extensive information, scientific attainments, and general good judgment, I think I could give him better directions for managing his land in order to drain, and make it productive under the plow than it could do by following the directions you gave him, and to do so I would tell how I last summer managed a piece of land on my farm, similarly circumstanced in every respect save the pond he mentioned which by the by is of no importance to my story. I having been perplexed with this piece of land many years, and almost uniformly lost my crops, whether they were corn, wheat, peas, potatoes, or beans, since I first ploughed it, which is some fourteen or fifteen years since although the land was good previous to ploughing and excellent for grass until I ploughed it, still it proved as bad as could be after I ploughed it. For, owing to the redundancy of water that had to pass through and over the land every winter and spring, creating hoar-frost, and heaving the land, which annually killed nearly all the grass roots, and as a consequence there was no grass worth calling a crop. As the land in question occupied a conspicuous place on my farm, I thought it best to get rid of the evil by digging. Accordingly about the middle of last June, finding the land, not likely to be dry enough to plant in any season without, we went to ditching. We had to cut a ditch about twenty five rods, from south to north, and say sixteen east to west in form of a T we had to cut to the under stratum which was for the most part slaty ledge, laying from 15 inches to three feet from the surface, We had to cut wide enough to work, say average two feet. After it was done it was surprising to see the quantity of water that continued to run in the ditch for three of four weeks, the weather it will be recollected was very wet long after the middle of June, notwithstanding, that in one week after the ditch was dug, the land was in good planting order,& all through the season remained as light and dry as any part of the field, and as dry and light as could be wished, the potatoes came up as quick, and grew as well, as on any land whatever. I will here observe, you may as well not dig at all, if you do not dig to the under stratum be it ledge or pan, for you may be assured, that you will find by digging that more water runs into the ditch within one inch of the ledge, or pan, than from twenty above it. In fact, in a wet time the soil appears to be perfectly afloat on the under stratum, and it is as reasonable to think of bleeding a creature to death quickly, without cutting vein or artery, as to think of draining land like the land in question without digging to the pan, or ledge, and cutting off the water at its source, and conveying it off by another ditch. On another piece of land intended for potatoes, I last spring tried the effect of one good ditch, about twenty rods in length. It answered the purpose of draining but a small part of the way, for it took too long for the water to concentrate to the ditch to do much good. But I have since cut a ditch across to cut off the water at its source, and it does the work of draining to perfection. I will here observe that land with a loose gravelly or sandy substratum seldom needs draining, while land, with a clayey pan, or slaty ledge substratum, is often worthless on the plough without some attention to draining, and in many cases the cost compared to the benefit derived by draining is trifling. On the two pieces of land drained by me last summer I can, by a little labor, and care, to keep the ditches open, work my land as early in the spring, as it is desirable to do, and without fear of damage to the crop from excessive moisture in the soil. And here I will observe the loss of the crop on the plough for one year, although a serious loss is but a small part of the loss accrueing, especially where the land is handsomely treated to manure, for where land is of the wet and springy nature of the land in question, manure spread on such land is manure thrown away, or merely so, with all the labor besides. This annihilation of manure is a bad business, and should be put a stop to, by every one that makes use of manure for his land. Suppose one starts up, and says, my land is ploughed, and it is akin to the land in question, a tolerably good soil, but rather wet, and somewhat springy, that is all the difficulty. But then, I have a good heap of manure, and that I trust will cure all the difficulty even though it is a little too wet, I tell you friend, although you have very efficient aid to trust too, if put on dry land, if you put it on wet springy land you loose crop and manure both, in three cases out of four. Perhaps you will ask what shall I do, my land is ploughed, and I have not time to dig the necessary ditches, and do all my othor work in any season for planting. I will tell you friend, if you have no other means sell one quarter, or one third, of your good heap of manure, which will pay for draining the land completely. You may then use the remainder with satisfaction and advantage, and beside your land plant, and hoe, with half the labor, that would be necessary without ditching. Beside, you will have the proud satisfaction, that you have abated a rare evil on your farm, and have improved the Lord's work, and like a good man as you will doubtless feel yourself to be on the completion of the work, and may justly say I have done some good, in my day and generation. It seems strange to me, that so many, myself among the number, could continue, year after year, to apply manure to land, where it had to be leached by spring water for 7 or 8 months in the year, and sometimes more, how is it possible that manure thus applied could answer any valuable purpose, it would in one year, if the strongest manure, that ever came from cattle, hogs, or any other creature, be so reduced, as to be poor, and weak, as spring water itself, and that by the by is very poor. And I know not what is made richer by its application, except the brooks and rivers. But for myself I should hardly like to wait so long for return, as I probably should have to, to get satisfactiod from that source. There are I think, other reasons, why springy lands, intended for the plough, should be drained, for it is I think, not uncommon for spring water to hold in solution, substances that are pernicious to vegetation. By judicious ditching that evil will be cut off, and a remedy may be applied, and the land made light and productive as any land in the vicinity, without draining neither labor or manure, however liberally applied, will give crop enough to prevent vexation, and disappointment. I think it likely there are some, perhaps there are many, that may say who wants a smooth field deformed by open ditches. To such I will say, I know of no greater deformity in a smooth field, than the failure of the crop to grow, when enough, both of time and manure have been applied to it for the purpose. It is not the design of this communication to give instructions to the wealthy, who farm land worth from one to three hundred dollars per acre, there covered drains should be appendages of the soil. But I intend these remarks for those who like the Young Farmer first mentioned, myself and most of the Farmers in the newly settled parts of Maine, that farmer's land, that sells for a far less price, and whose finances will admit of nothing of the kind, more costly than open drains, at least for the present. I will here remark that open drains are not very great inconveniences, for where it is necessary, a rod or two may be stoned and covered for a cartway, and an eye should be kept by the Farmer whenever he is moving stone, to save such stone as are suitable to lay an under drain, and throw them aside for that purpose, until enough can be come at handily. For to do away with a part of the open drain, and so a farm may in time be drained without the expense of brick, or tile, and at the least possible expense. I would not have obtruded my notion as I have done, on this subject of draining, had it not been that in almost every journey of a few miles that I took last summer, I had to witness disappointment, and loss of crops, staring from many a field, that for the value of one quarter, of what could, and in all probability would have been the crop, had it been suitably drained, before the seed had been put in. Besides a clear saving of three fourths of a crop, what is of more consequence, the manure would not have been so leeched as to have but little beneficial effect in after years. Ditching must be done thoroughly, hardly any thing to me looks more childish in a man, than to see him hoe in hand, in a potato field, half knee deep in mud, trying to drain the water so that his crop may not be spoiled, all I have to say to him is, it lis mere puttering that does no good. If you want to save the crop, you must go the right way to work, and you may do it beginning at the lower end of your field, and cut a ditch to the upper end all the way to the under-stratum, then cut another ditch on the upper end of the field to the under stratum in form of a T and your crop will be saved if any means can save it. I will here remark that it is considered prudent for a man to get property, such as houses, barns, ships &c. insured from loss although such insurance cost what is considered equivalent to the risk. Now if that is prudent, how imprudent it is, not to have good ditches, to protect crops, on land naturally springy, and where they are greatly exposed to suffer from excessive moisture. You may say the chances are too much against the crop to let it go when insurance is so cheap, get one piece effectually secured by following these directions and you will then say you cannot and will not, commit so great an improvidence, as to risk your crops when the remedy is so easily obtained. Mr Editor I hardly know how to dismiss this subject, it is one of great importance to the farming interest of our State, and if attended to, and acted on, as its importance requires, many of our fields, in every town that I am acquainted with, would soon escape the reproach of having bad patches of land and their owners saved from the loss, of having bad crops, and the proud satisfaction would be theirs, of showing how they made, light, dry, and productive, land that was heavy and wet, and as poor as spring water could make it. For fear I may tire the patience of your readers I will stop.

S. Stetson.

Stetson, Penobscot Co. Jan. 25th 1840.

ROOT CULTURE—Queries.

Mr. Editor,—Since public attention of late has been called to the subject of raising more roots for their stock than heretofore, will you be so obliging as to propose in the Farmer the following questions, and request answers to them by thinking farmers.

1st. What are uncooked potatoes worth, pound for pound, compared with English hay?

2d. What are Ruta Baga turnips worth, thus compared with hay, and also with potatoes?

3d. What is the Sugar Beet worth, compared with hay, potatoes and Ruta Baga?

4th. What are Carrots worth compared with hay, Ruta bagas, Potatoes and Sugar Beets?

I hope to hear from many farmers on this subject, especially from those who know a thing or two about feeding, as we all know that if most of our cattle have roots in the right quantity they will do well on straw, meadow hay, or such as has been injured by wet in the time of mowing.

5th. I wish to know what the common flat turnip is worth, compared as above—if worth raising for stock at all?

6th. Whether any or all the roots above named may be improved by cooking beyond the cost and trouble—and if so, how much?

7th. What each variety is worth, bushel for bushel, compared with Indian corn, Rye, Wheat, Barley, Buckwheat, Oats, &c.?

I know that in making calculations, the labor of raising, &c. should be thought of. There are auxilieries, such as apples, squashes, pumpkins and the like, of great use in feeding and even fattening beef and pork; but if other farmers are of my opinion, nothing will ever take the place of roots in the soil of Maine, which is so excellen ly adapted to their culture.

An old Farmer.

KEEPING COWS TOO FAT.

Mr. Holmes :—I often hear it said that cows, if kept "too well," will run too fat, and consequently will not give as much milk, as they will on ordinary keeping. Of this however I have always been rather sceptical, and should like to know the fact.

I have but one cow and I keep her fat enough for decent beef throughout the year. This I do by giving her good pasture in summer, and a plenty of good hay and water administered at seasonable times, and a small quantity of potatoes or other roots once a day during winter. I will submit to your disposal a brief statement of her doings the past season. She is of the native breed,—about six years old; had a calf about the first of April last, which I kept on the cow three weeks and then sold it. In the summer I fed two pigs with new milk twice a day for two weeks, and I boarded a laboring man who lived wholly upon bread and milk (new milk of course) two months, besides more or less of new milk that was used in the family every day during the season. She gave milk till the first of this month, and the quantity of butter made from the remainder of her milk was two hundred pounds.

I am aware that this is nothing to boast of, neither is a "news paper puff" the object in communicating it. The question is, whether cows kept *thin*, lest they should "run to fat" do any better: for I firmly be-

lieve that it costs less to keep a fat cow after she is once put in that condition, than it does to keep one of the "lean kine," which it is said, will eat all before them and look the worse for it. Add to this, the risk, nay the absolute certainty in the latter case, of the total loss of the cow deducting the price of the hide, in case of any fatal accident, and I think it will be clear, that in point of economy, leaving both the quantity and quality of milk out of the question, the balance will be decidedly in favor of keeping cows in good flesh throughout the year, and this balance must be considerable if, as I believe, the quantity of the milk is *generally* improved, and the quality *always* by improving the condition of the cows.

I omitted to mention, that my cow will come in this year the first of March, one month earlier than she did last spring consequently her season for giving milk is curtailed one month. A very important requisite in keeping cows in good order is to furnish them in winter with a *dry bed*. In this way with *very* little trouble they can be kept as clean all winter as in summer, and no one can doubt that this will contribute much to the wholesomeness of the milk, if not to the quantity. A gentleman told me a year or two since that he was called a few days before, early in the morning to see a neighbor's cow which was sick and could not get up. On examination he found the cow was frozen down to the dung on which she lay. An old axe applied smartly for a few moments afforded instant relief.

E. Fairfield.

Feb. 11, 1840.

THE VISITOR.

CONDUCTED BY CYRIL PEARL.

PHILOSOPHY OF HUMAN LIFE.

We have just read a book with this title, by Amos Dean, Professor of Medical Jurisprudence in the Albany Medical College. The work is one of deep interest. Not that we concur in every sentiment or statement; but it is a work full of thought, and thought generally well expressed. The phenomena of human life are here resolved into three great elements—Power, Will, Accountability. In considering the first element the writer treats of the sources; the instruments; and operations of power. In classifying the human powers, the author uses chiefly phrenological terms but does not seem to confine his discussions to the common range of Phrenology. He enumerates 1. The propensity to resist or Combativeness. 2. To destroy or destructiveness. 3. Secretiveness. 4. Acquisitiveness. 5. Constructiveness. 6. Imitation. 7. Propensity or Instinct of Hunger and Thirst. 8. Propensity or instinct of sex. Then are enumerated 1. The sentiment of self-esteem. 2. Of Attachment. 3. Love of Approbation. 4. Consciousness. 5. Mirthfulness. 6. Reverence. 7. Marvellousness. 8. Ideality. 9. Benevolence.

We do not look upon this classification as perfect, or as the best possible; nor is this the best part of the book. And there are some sentiments advanced in common with the discussion of these topics which we deem exceptionable. If the sentiment in some cases is not wrong there is an unfortunate mode of stating it in several instances. We notice the following "The sources and springs of all human power and movement are to be found in what Phrenologists term the affective faculties." p. 7. This is not proved, nor can it be proved that the springs of all human power and movement are to be found in *any one department* of mind. The *whole mind* is made for action and it cannot be properly asserted that the springs of action are thus restricted to one part.

Again "The sentiment of self esteem when accompanied by a large endowment of intellect, suggests the adoption of that course of conduct which on the whole, is the *most conducive to the happiness of its possessor. This is the true self-policy, which the philosophy of life should unfold, and its history display, and carry out into all the diversities of action.* p. 21.

We object to this statement. It savors too strongly of the *selfish philosophy*, which the true Philosophy of life ought rather to counteract and restrain than to "unfold and display." The will is defined to be *the decision of the whole mind, upon the whole matter.*—Some objections might be made to several statements. Notice the following "The intellectual faculties, in different individuals, never conflict. They act on their destined objects by virtue of their own peculiar constitution, *and that action cannot be varied by individual volition.* p. 54.

We believe that part of the statement we have printed in italics incorrect. That in fact the action of of the intellectual faculties *is often varied essentially* by "individual volition." We have no doubt that each department of the mind has more or less of influence on every other department. The feelings, desires, passions, and volitions have some influence upon the actions of the intellectual powers as really, as intellectual action affects the emotions and desires, and, through these, the will. Other passages might be cited, if we were chiefly bent on fault finding, but this is not our object. The book contains much that is really excellent, and ought not to be lost, to the world because of some faults of this nature. They ought indeed to be corrected in a new edition, but the book will do good notwithstanding these defects. More than two thirds of the book are occupied with the "third great element" Accountability. By this the author intends not merely accountability to human laws, or to God as our Creator, "but the dependence of our different natures upon their general laws or principles that have been found to influence them." In other words man is responsible to the laws of his physical organization, to the laws of the land, to public sentiment, to the laws of his moral nature, and to God. To correspond with these relations the author treats of five distinct sanctions. The Physical sanction; the Political Sanction; the Popular Sanction; the Moral Sanction; the Religious Sanction. The organic laws of our physical constitution are traced in connexion with the physical sanction, and having treated of each of the sanctions in order, he considers them together and follows the whole by a review and application some parts of which are full of rich and glowing thought. The work must be read, to be appreciated. It is from the press of Marsh, Capen, Lyon & Webb.

COLLECTIONS OF CURIOSITIES.

The principle of curiosity, so generally found in the human mind, is one deserving better culture and regulation than it generally receives. It may become excessive and lead the possessor into snares and dangers, but rightly trained and exercised its influence is most salutary.

There is one way in which it may be safely and usefully employed, and that is by collecting the curiosities, natural or artificial, which fall in our way, and tastefully depositing them in some part of the quiet homes where the youthful minds, unfolding there, can study and arrange them. Home may be made more attractive and happy in its influence, by such collections, whether the curiosities be the works of nature or of art, or of both combined. The facilities for doing this in Maine are very great, especially in our seaport towns, and wherever any number of the people are much abroad upon the Ocean. Our intelligent masters of vessels, who visit foreign countries, have peculiar facilities of this kind, which might be improved to great advantage. Why are there not in our large sea-ports, public deposites of the curiosities of foreign countries? Why not encouragement held out to the masters and mariners of our state in making such collections?

Our attention is called to this subject now, by witnessing a beautiful collection, of shells and other curiosities made by one of our enterprising ship masters Several fine articles of furniture are among them. A bureau, sideboard and portable desk, an invalids chair and couch combined, made of the bamboo and easily removed, answering well as an infants crib—Settees of the same material—also a childs walking chair answering the purposes of confinement and active movement, and amusement combined. Then the ladies work box with great diversity of improvements, carved in the finished style of Chinese art, beautiful paintings on rice paper; including insects, flowers, boats of various structures, &c. &c. Add to these a splendid collection of shells gathered from various countries exhibiting the wonder, profusion of beauty, variety of form, and diversity of habits which are thus unfolded in the divine arrangements for animated existence.—Specimens of needle work in beautifully wrought capes and other articles of apparel exhibiting the perfection of art in different countries also add to the pleasures of such a collection. The children's toys presented by the natives of Whampoa to an infant son of this gentleman, the first born of American parentage at that place, are a curiosity. American ladies, indeed all foreign ladies are forbidden to enter here.—Formely there was the penalty of death attached to the violation of this law, but now the law demands their removal to Macao. The wife of this gentleman was not however molested there and the birth of a beautiful boy there, was an object of great interest to the natives and was honored with numerous gifts of toys. But these are now the mementos of his brief visit, his early departure. He lies buried in a little family enclosure of an American gentleman at Manilla. Perhaps it is owing to the circumstance of taking his companion in a voyage of this extent that the collection of curiosities is so varied and extensive.

Why may not the readers of this be favored with extracts from the Journal kept during this same voyage? There are descriptions of places and scenery which would be read with deep interest.

EXCURSIONS IN MAINE.

Thorndike.—This town it is understood received its name from the former proprietor of the Thorndike farm. It has rather a hilly surface but is an excellent farming town. Population in 1830, 652. In 1837, 763. There are seven school districts and 352 scholars are returned as between 4 and 21 years of age.—Of these 240 are reported as in attendance in the winter schools. The wheat raised in 1838 was 7179 bushels and the corn 3635. Well done farmers of Thorndike. If you will always raise 14 bushels of wheat & corn for each person there will be no need of starvation, especially if you raise other things in proportion. In this as well as the other towns named in this article we have pleasant recollections of temperance lectures, and lectures on Education some of them given years ago. This is a temperate town and there is evidence of an increasing interest in education and in the institutions of religion since the temperance reform commenced. But we must hasten through this thriving town to an evening lecture at

UNITY.

This town is favorably situated to make a good impression on the traveler who passes through on the way from Bangor to Augusta. The village is very pleasantly situated and the good farms and farm houses stretching along the road side indicate temporal prosperity. A neat looking church too has been erected and finished about two miles from the village chiefly by the labors of a few individuals. Another has been erected at the village and is yet to be finished.—A very fine and spacious brick school house with a cupola suitable for hanging a bell, has also been built recently. This was occupied by the Methodist denomination for a series of religious meetings, at the time of our visit, so that the lecture on the Resources &c. of Maine was given at the Meeting house two miles below. The evening was intensely cold and the audience consequently thin. The day following was one of severe storm which forbid the progress of our journey. The detention however afforded opportunity to attend the religious meetings referred to, and to address, by request, a considerable number of citizens assembled notwithstanding the storm, on the great subject of religion. The town of Unity had a population of 1299 in 1830 and of 1520 in 1837. There are 13 school districts and 602 scholars reported. Three hundred and forty five are represented as taught by masters and 272 by females.

Agriculture is the chief business of the town although there are stores, mills, an extensive tannery. There is a grist mill at some distance from the village which is spoken of as a very superior one, having two run of Burrh, and two of Granite stone, with three bolts; from one of which the canel or middlings is carried back to the stone by a conductor and ground and bolted a second time, so that the bushel of wheat thus ground yields some five or six more pounds of flour than by the common methods of bolting. Another improvement is the conducting of the meal across the room in a revolving screw so that it is cooled before bolting and the quantity and quality of flour are supposed to be improved by the process. This mill it is understood was built on a place furnished by Dr. Southwick, one of the brothers extensively engaged in tanneries in the state. The establishment at Unity village is only one of several in which one of these brothers are concerned. This is now conducted by Mr. Thomas Snell formerly of Winthrop. About 500 hides have been converted into sole leather here a year, consuming about 1000 cords of bark. This year they are securing about 2000 cords with the design of doubling the amount of leather. The power employed in grinding bark, rolling leather &c. is created by a substantial steam engine, and it is supposed that 10 men will tan about ten thousand hides in a year. The several establishments in which the Southwicks are concernad are now supposed to tan about 30,000 hides, and to make a market for about 6000 or 7000 cords of Bark.

In this town in 1838 were raised 10684 bushels of wheat and 6813 bushels of corn. This is well but it is possible for such a soil as that of Unity to do better. We had no opportunities to examine, stock of farms to any extent by reason of the snow, but we have seen the soil when covered with a rich vegetation.

ALBION.

This is another good farming town with a population of 1393 as given in the census of 1830, and of 1609, by that of 1837. There are 9 school districts and 760 scholars. The returns give 515 as the number attending the winter school, and 418 as taught by females. There is manifest improvement in the farms and buildings and general appearance of this town within the last ten years. We had no time to remain or make enquiries in relation to these, matters but some years since we met with good farmers in several parts of the town, and the general tone of feeling has much advanced.

The quantity of wheat reported in this town in 1838 was 9795 bushels. Of corn 8860 bushels. Some years since there was an extensive tannery in this town but it was suddenly abandoned by its proprietor who left this part of the country, and its present condition we are not able to state. Two houses of public worship have been erected on the road which add to the interest of the place.

CHINA.

This is the next town which we pass on the way to Augusta. It has a larger village than either of the others which we pass after leaving the Penob-

scot till we reach Augusta. The population of China in 1837 was 2641, and reports 1190 as between 4 and 21 years of age. The number in schools is reported to be 897. The increase of population in this town from 1830 to 1837 was 407. The quantity of wheat in 1838 was 11059 bushels and of corn 22320 bushels. In full view of the village is a beautiful lake near which is the church and the village school house a little removed from the village. In the village is the edifice occupied by the China Academy now under the care of Mr. Payne, an indefatigable preceptor whom, in our early rambles in the state to visit schools, we met in Monmouth, and subsequently in the Waterville Academy. A large number of useful men are now abroad in the country, who were fitted for college by him. This Academy has been honored with a somewhat liberal patronage, and has given a useful impulse to many vigorous minds. The severe storm of the day previous prevented our lecture in the evening, but a desire is manifest for such discussions. Some years since it was our privilege to address the citizens on the subject of Education in the Academy, and to find at that period a good degree of interest. On the verge of the lake referred to, which is now bridged with snow and ice, is an extensive steam saw, and grist mill. The stones of this are run with bands, and when first in operation it had an extensive business. Its present state I did not learn. There are several stores and mechanic shops which give a business aspect to the place, and employment to a considerable number of persons. We had no opportunity to examine stock or to enquire after this branch of husbandry but this is certainly an excellent grazing as well as arable township, and we have sometimes known large quantities of hay pressed and sent to market. The people of China have no excuse if they do not furnish excellent cattle and sheep and in great numbers.

SUMMARY.

INHABITANTS OF WINTHROP.

Arrangements have been made with Doctrs. Mequier, Clark and Bailey for vaccinating at the expense of the town those who never have been vaccinated with effect, provided they call upon said Physicians.

Circumstances, which exist around and amongst us, plainly show that the only safety from that malignant disease—the small pox—lies in an immediate resort to vaccination, and we trust that all persons who have not attended to it, will, without delay.

MOSES B. SEARS, } Selectmen of
FRANCIS FULLER, } Winthrop.

Winthrop, Feb. 26, 1840.

SINGULAR DISEASE, IF TRUE.—Miss Lucy Harrington, formerly a resident in Amesbury, and daughter of Mr. Moses Harrington, died recently in Cornish, N.H. under the following distressing circumstances. She was sick three years and a half, and confined to her bed two years and five months. Several months previous to her death, her right hip was dislocated by a contraction of the muscles, while she was sleeping quietly in bed. Immediately after this event, her bones began to break, and before her death, they had broken nineteen times or more, in different parts of her body. At first her ribs broke, then her collar bones, then her lower limbs, her under jaw, and the bones of her hands and feet. Their breaking was sometimes attended with noise, and at others not; and was always preceded and followed by the most acute pain. The ends of the broken bones would sometimes for a day or two, grate together on being moved. Upon a post mortem examination, not a sound bone was found. All were so softened as to be easily cut with a knife. When her bones began to break, the muscles of her lower limbs so contracted, that they lay directly across her stomach and bowels. In this position she remained until her death. Her body was so contracted that at one time she measured as she lay in bed only two feet and four inches. She gradually lost all strength in her limbs, until she could only move slightly the ends of her fingers. She was 43 years of age.—*Amesbury Transcript.*

WARLIKE!—Her Majesty's ship Vestal has arrived at Halifax, where, we understand, other vessels of war are soon expected, for the purpose of bringing Troops and Munitions of War to this Province, in case they should be required.

We learn, also, that the 23d Fusileers, now in garrison at Halifax, instead of being about to proceed to the East Indies, is the first Regiment for service in this Province, and has received orders to be ready to move at the shortest notice.

We are further informed, on good authority, that the erection of barracks at Woodstock, in this province, for the accommodation of a large military force, has been determined upon, and the work is to commence immediately.

These precautions, we presume, are taken in accordance with the views expressed in the communication of the British Minister at Washington to the American Secretary of State, under date of the 26th January, which will be found in another column. The continued persistance of Governor Fairfield in acts of aggression on the disputed territory, contrary to existing arrangements, (while the British authorities, as will appear by Mr Fox's letter, have scrupulously adhered to them both in letter and spirit,) and the repeated threats of his determination to take possession of the territory, could not fail to arouse our authorities to a sense of their duty, and have no doubt caused the present warlike demonstrations. We sincerely trust, however, that the United States Government will perceive the difficulties into which the refractory Governor of Maine is about to plunge the two nations, and at once interpose to prevent the awful calamities of either a border or a general war.—St. John Courier, February 15.

We learn from the Columbia (Pa.) Spy of Feb. 16, that about ten o'clock, the evening previous, the extensive stabling attached to the Sorrel Horse Hotel in that place, was found to be on fire. Seventeen horses were burnt to death, and the building, which was of brick, entirely destroyed. It is pretty nearly ascertained that incendiaries have been at work; and a colored man has been arrested, charged with the perpetration of the crime.

It is announced that Messrs. Epes Sargent and John Neal have associated themselves with Mr Benjamin as editors of the "New World," published in New-York.

We learn from the Barre Gazette, that there is too much reason to believe that T. J. Partridge, of Barre, Mass., and one child of his own and another child belonging to his sister, were on board the Lexington when that vessel was destroyed. Mr P. went about a year since to Ohio with the intention of remaining, but having abandoned his purpose, was on his return to his first home.

The Journal du Bas Rhin mentions that a man had just died in the valley of Munster, who confessed in his last moments that he committed the murder of a person named Henrich, in 1819, for which his wife and son were convicted, and executed at Colmar. These persons protested their innocence up to the last moment, and it is related of the son that, when on the scaffold, he said to the clergyman who attended him —"It is impossible that God should allow this execution to take place, for I always loved my father and am perfectly innocent."

Abel W. Bisbee, has been appointed Post Master at Sumner, Me, in place of Simeon Barrett.

The following resolution was offered in the House of Reps. at Washington on the 10th inst. by Mr. Evans, of Me.

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to enquire into the expediency of establishing and immediately constructing the arsenals, forts, fortification, and works of Military defence on the frontiers of Maine, recommended in the reports of Brig. Gen. Wool and Major J. D. Graham, communicated to the Senate by the Secretary of War, December 31, 1838.

A caution to Matchmakers.—We understand the District Court for this District, has issued an Injunction to Reuben Murray, on the application of the American Friction Match Company, restraining him from the the mannfacture of Friction Matches, under a penalty of $500. The Match making business, it seems has become an extensive affair, and the Company think their Patent worth defending.

The nominations by the President, of Mr. Mitchell to be Postmaster at Portland, and of Mr. Miller to be Postmaster at Bangor, have been confirmed by the Senate.

An inquest was held before Coroner Mace Smith, at South Boston, Wednesday, on the body of Seth Graham, machinist, belonging to the State of Maine, found near Abbott's wharf, with a junk bottle lying by his side, containing N. E. rum.—Verdict—exposure, caused by intemperance.

Slaver Condemned.—The schooner at Baltimore, seized on suspision of having been fitted out as a slaver, has been condemned in the U. S. Court.

There are in the various states and territories of the Union, including branches, 959 banks—without branches 850. In 1839, 343 banks suspended wholly, 62 in part, 498 did not suspend, 56 have broken or been discontinued, and 48 have resumed specie payments.

It is estimated that upwards of seventy factories have ceased operations in New England; and at least one fourth of the population of the United States are out of employment.

Silks. The importations of silks into the United States, during the last ten years, have amounted to the enormous sum of $118,000,000. They are admitted duty free, and the consequence is, that they have, in a great measure, superseded the cotton fabrics, the products of our own industry, both agricultural and manufacturing. Mr Buchanan, of Pennsylvania, lately presented a petition, from certain citizens of that State, praying for an import duty on foreign silks, and stated "that before the close of the present session of Congress, we should be compelled to raise additional revenue to meet the necessary expenditures of Government.

Iron Manufactures. In a late speech at the "Anthracite Celebration," at Pottsville, Mr Nicholas Biddle estimated the amount of iron imported into the U. States for the last ten years at $84,000,000; all our rail roads, nearly all our nails, and almost every article of iron manufacture, are made of imported iron, and yet we have in every part of the country as good iron as Russia, or Sweden, or Germany can produce.

The better way. The sons of the poor die rich—while the sons of the rich die poor. What an encouragement to toil through life in acquiring wealth to ruin our children. Better to go with our money as we go along—educate our sons—secure their virtue by habits of industry and study, and let them take care of themselves.

LEGISLATURE OF MAINE.

In Senate, Thursday, Feb. 20, on motion of Mr. True, half past nine o'clock, A. M. was fixed as the hour to which the Senate shall hereafter adjourn until otherwise ordered. Legislation deemed inexpedient—on an order relative to altering the law regulating the price of powder made into cartridges—an order relative to employing some suitable person as a military instructor in each Brigade.

In the House, on motion of Mr. Emerson, the Committee on the Judiciary was instructed to inquire into the expediency of so amending the law relative to vaccination as to make it the imperative duty of each city, town and plantation to provide at all times means whereby any inhabitants thereof may be vaccinated free of individual expense. On motion of Mr. Shaw, the rules of the House were suspended for the purpose of receiving private petitions, and it was voted that all such petitions received after this day be referred to the next Legislature. Leave to withdraw was granted on the petition of Betsey Simes, Daniel Day, and John Carter 5th for change of name. Finally passed—Resolve for the continuation of the Geological Survey when the finances will allow—in favor of Deacon Socabason and Joseph Solersolmo—for the payment of bounty on agricultural products to Penobscot Indians.

In Senate, Friday, Feb. 21, legislation inexpedient—on report relative to the petition of Joseph Austin and als.; on petition of John Brown and als. relative to the preservation of fish in Kennebec river; on an order relative to indigent Deaf and Dumb children; providing fos the examination of School Teachers. Leave to withdraw—on petition of Joseph Socabason, for tract of land; of John Neptune and als on Penobscot Indians, that the state will build them a house.

In the House, resolve in favor of the Insane Hospital was called up by Mr. Fessenden, and passed to be engrossed. It appropriates $9000 to complete the Hospital, $4000 to furnish a part of it, and authorizes the Governor and Council to put it in operation.

In Senate, Saturday, Feb. 22, the order relative to holding the terms of the Supreme Judicial Court for the hearing of law arguments, at Bangor only, was taken up, and on motion of Mr. Bradley indefinitely postponed. Legislation deemed inexpedient—on subject of clearing obstructions in Penobscot river. Leave to withdraw—on petition of John Ford and 31 others for remuneration; of Inhabitants of Gouldsboro'.

In the House, legislation inexpedient—On an order relative to altering the constitution so as to change the time of holding the session of the Legislature; on an order relative to an additional Judge of the Supreme Court. Resolve for furnishing arms to the militia was taken up. Mr. Chadbourne of Eastport spoke in opposition to it, and Messrs. Dorrance and J. J. Perry sustained it. Mr. E. Otis moved its indefinite postponement. The motion was lost—22 to 72. The Resolve was then passed to be engrossed.

In Senate, Monday, Feb. 24, the joint select committee to which was referred an order instructing them to ascertain when the Legislature can adjourn, provided that the Revised Statutes should not be acted upon at this session, reported that the Legislature can have a recess from and after the fifth day of March next—Accepted. The reports of the committee, deeming legislation inexpedient relative to an alteration of the Division line between Franklin and Somerset Counties,—and also on sundry petitions for an alteration of the Constitution, so that County officers may be elected by ballot, were severally taken up, and accepted.—Passed to be engrossed. Resolve for furnishing arms to the Militia. Passed to be enacted. Bill additional, to regulate the jurisdiction of Probate Courts; to incorporate the Piscataquis Agricultural Society; to limit the tenure of Military offices.

In the House, on motion of Mr. Carey, ordered, that the committee on State Lands be directed to institute an inquiry into the recent seizure of teams and supplies belonging to Bull and others, for an alleged trespass upon the public lands; and report forthwith to this House whether, in their opinion, the facts in the case justify said seizure,, and if not, to accompany said report with a resolve directing the Land Agent to give up said property to the owners. Leave to withdraw—

On petition of Paul Collins et al.; of Selectmen of Mexico; of Orison Ripley et al; of John Ford, Jr. et al. On motion of Mr. Hanscom of Elliot, a Joint Committee, consistidg on the part of the House of Messrs. Hanscom, Rich, Fuller, Perry of Litchfield, Stevens of Norway, Wardwell, Morrill, Beale, Haley, Toothaker, Ward and Carey, was raised, to take into consideration the expediency of altering the time of holding our annual State elections.

In Senate, Tuesday Feb 25, the Governor transmitted a message informing the Senate that Maj. Gen. Hodsdon and Maj. Gen. Jewett have held their stations for the full term of seven years, and have been honorably discharged, and calling the attention of the Legislature to the filling the vacancies.

In House,—Finally passed—Resolve in relation to the distribution of the Annual School fund.

In Senate, Wednesday 26th, An order was introduced that (the House of Representatives concurring) after finishing the other business now before the Legislature, the Legislature will hold an adjourned session on the first Wednesday of June for the purpose of considering and acting upon the Report of the Commissioners appointed under the Resolve of February 28th 1337, to revise the public Laws of this State, and that a Joint Select Committee be appointed to sit during the recess, and report at the adjourned session. The order was passed, yeas 13, nays 11.—Finally passed—Resolve in relation to the annual School Fund.

In House,—Finally passed—Resolves—for furnishing arms to the militia; in favor of Joseph Farnsworth. Agent of the Passamaquoddy tribe of Indians; in favor of Lewis Bailey of Gardiner.

Mr E. D. Stevens, a Druggist, in Boston, having a severe toothache, arose in the night, and it is supposed, in attempting to destroy the nerve of the tooth by applying Prussic Acid to it, swallowed a portion of it. About an hour after retiring he was seized with intense pains, his father was immediately sent for, but he was speechless when he arrived, and expired about one o'clock. It should serve as a melancholly warning to others, being the second victim in Boston to an attempt to destroy the nerve of a tooth.

Florida.—On Tuesday, says the St. Augustine Herald of the 6th inst. we learn that four men were fired upon and wounded by Indians, near Palatka; three of them were found in the woods—the fourth is missing.

The St. Augustine News of the 7th, says that the blood-hounds lately received from Cuba, have been subjected to many experiments, the results of which have been very satisfactory. They follow a trail 24 hours old with rapidity and accuracy. Some of them are to be employed by the troops now scouring the country between the mouths of the Waeussassa and Suwannee rivers, Micanopy, &c.

A Fire in Newburyport, occurred on Wednesday evening, breaking out in the stable of Mr George Akerman of the Franklin Tavern, which, together with a large range of wooden stores on Central wharf, and another stable belonging to the Frothingham estate, were destroyed, as well as a large part of their contents.—There was an insurance on nearly all the buildings—amount not ascertained. Three schooners lying in the dock at the time—the tide being low,—were much injured. The fire was thought by some to have been the work of an incendiary. *Adv.*

Bricks. A machine has lately been introduced on the extensive works of James Hunt, Esq. of Rowden Hill, near Chippenham, for making bricks, which has excited much curiosity. The cylinders revolve about once a minute, making, in the course of such a revolution, thirty-two bricks.—*Taunton Journal.*

The St. Louis Pennant of the 22d ult., says:—"Last night, the scene presented by the burning of the Illinois prairies exceeded any thing of the kind we ever before witnessed. For miles around, the horizon appeared one sheet of vivid flame, affording a magnificent spectacle."

We hear from good authority, that propositions have been made to an extensive mercantile house in New York, for delivering in that city, in June next, *ten thousand* barrels of flour, at four dollars seventy-five cents per barrel, which have not been acceded to.—*Zanesville Republican.*

There are said to be in Ireland, at this moment, five millions of acres of waste land capable of cultivation, and yet thousands of people in that ill-fated country can scarcely get potatoes enough to keep them from starvation.

The Picayune says there is a town in the interior of Arkansas contining but six inhabitants, viz: a crippled negro, a jackass, a quack doctor, a buzzard, a polecat, and an alligator. There was a population of seven until the postmaster *absquatalized*.

Tinder. Somebody describes tinder to be a thin rag, such as the modere female dress, intended to catch *sparks*, raise *flames*, and light up *matches*.

Price of Whipping a Wife. A man named Dalton, was sentenced in Northampton County, Penn. a few days since, to a fine of one dollar and thirty days imprisonment, for beating his wife.

About five hundred actions now pending in the Massachusetts Courts for violation of the license law will be stopped by the repeal of the law.

The tallest yet. One of our exchange papers tells of a man who had grown so tall that he had got out of the reach of his creditors.

An Earthquake. The St. Louis Republican 'of Friday, the 31st ult., observes, that on the day previous, about half past 3 o'clock, a large portion of the citizens were aroused by the report of an earthquake, which sensibly shook the buildings. One of the city watchmen stated that the report was very loud, and sufficient to shake the icicles from the eaves of the houses.

General Bankruptcy Law. Both political parties in New York are loudly in favor of a general bankrupt law and the memorial to Congress praying for the enactment of such a law will be very numerously signed. It is surely worth the attention of the national legislature.

A correspondent of the N. Y. Signal, dating from Wisconsin, says there is not an unmarried lady in the place, but plenty of miserable old bachelors. He begs for an invoice, and wants them consigned to him that he may get the first choice.

Capt. Hussey, of whale ship Pacific, arrived at New Bedford, sometime during his voyage, put into Two people's Bay, N. S. W., to take whales, and was ordered by H. B. M. ship of war Herald, lying there, to depart immediately, and gave him 24 hours to get under way, or he would sink him, or send a shot through his boats if he lowered for whales; as Capt. H. was not able to resent, he left for the west coast of New Holland.—The people at Swan River and Hobartstown have petitioned for a man of war to be on the coast to prevent Americans from whaling and drive them out of the Bays.

The Tremont Theatre, Boston, is closed for want of patronage.

"Dick," inquired the maid, "have you been after that saleratus?" "No I haint." "If you don't go quick, I'll tell your mistress" "Well, tell mistress as soon as you please. I don't know Sally Ratus, and won't go near her —you know well enough I am engaged to Deb."

Morus Multicaulis in the West Indies. The Kingston Gazette, of the 8th ult. announces the arrival of Samuel Whitmarsh, Esq. of Northampton, Massachusetts, with a large supply of mulberry plants, intending to introduce the cultivation of silk into the island, on an extensive scale.

Married,

In Strong, Mr. Charles C. Davis to Miss Mary Fossett.

In Foxcroft, Mr. Benjamin S. Philbrick, of Mt. Vernon, to Miss Abagail Chamberlain.

In West Troy, N. Y. Nov. 7th, 1837, William H. Lansing to Miss Mary Ann Cooley, both of W. T.—The above marriage was private and has never until now been made public. Mr. L. was an apprentice at the time and has lived in Troy ever since, while his wife has resided at Springfield, Mass. They have both kept their secret like free-masons, and have gone bravely through their period of probation.

Died,

In Augusta, on Tuesday morning last, George Robinson, Esq. formerly Editor of the Age, aged 27.

In Berwick, Mr. Jonathan Knox, aged 82, a soldier of the Revolution, who served his country in 31 battles and skirmishes including the battles of Bunker Hill and Saratoga. While serving under Gen. Sullivan, he was imprisoned by the Indians at Canada, from whom he made a daring escape.

In Dover, Mrs. Sarah L. wife of Mr. A. A. Macomber, aged 31.

In Foxcroft, of the canker rash, Joseph, aged 19, and Rhoda, aged 10 years, son and daughter of Mr. Samuel Cross—James, aged 10, and Henry, 4 years, children of Mr. Jacob Lebroke.

In Belfast, Mrs. Hannah E., wife of Mr. H. G. O. Washburn, aged 24.

In Brunswick, Miss Hannah F. L. daughter of the late Daniel Stone, aged 22.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday Feb. 17, 1840.

(From the New England Farmer.)

At market, 365 Beef Cattle, 10 Cows and Calves, 325 Sheep.

Prices.—*Beef Cattle*—The prices obtained last week for a like quality, were hardly sustained, and we reduce our quotations on first quality. We quote first quality 6 75, 2d, 6 25 a 6 50; 3d, 5 25 a 5 75.

Cows and Calves—A few sales only were noticed, and those of an ordinary quality—$28, 30, 35.

Sheep—We quote lots at $2 75, 3 25, 4, 4 50, 5.

Swine—None at market.

N. B We intended to have noticed in our report last week a yoke of beautiful Cattle, fed by Mr. Ichabod Stow, of Stow, Mass. weighing when slaughtered, over 3000 lbs.

THE WEATHER.

Range of the Thermometer and Barometer at the office of the Maine Farmer.

1840.

Feb.	Thermom.			Barometer.			Weather.		Wind.	
21,	47	44	39	29,50	29,80	29,95	F.	F. F.	W.	N.
22,	29	46	44	29,95	29,90	29,85	F.	F. C.	S.	SW.
23,			43			29,50	C.	C. C.	NE.	
24,	37	40	32	29,45	29,50	29,55	F.	F. F.	NW.	NNW.
25,	19	32	30	29,60	29,60	29,55	F.	F F.	N.	S.
26,	24	33	38	29,55	29,55	29,40	C.	S. F.	S.	SSW.
27,	24	29	31	29,60	29,75	29,75	F.	F F.	N.	SE

F. for Fair weather; C. cloudy; S. snow; R. rain. The place of these letters indicate the character of the weather at each time of observation—viz. at sunrise, at noon, and at sunset. * Below zero.

The direction of the wind is noted at sunrise and sunset.

Communicated for the Farmer.

The Thermometer at Bucksport, during the month of January, 1840, ranged as follows:

		Wind.	Weather.
1, at sunrise,	21-2° ab. 0.	N.W.	Fair.
2,	2	Do.	Do.
3,	4	Do.	Do.
4,	6	S.W.	Cloudy morn, cld off
5,	20	S.W. P.M.	N.W. Cloudy.
6,	18,	N.W.	Do.
7,	10,	Do.	Fair.
8,	14	N.	Hazy.
9,	16	N.W. P.M.	S. Cloudy in west.
10,	31	Do.	Some clouds.
11,	16	Do.	Hazy.
12,	2	Do.	Fair.
13,	6	N.E.	Fair and frosty.
14,	13,	N.W.	Do.
15,	6,	Do.	Snowing.
16,	5 below 0.	Do.	Fair.
17, at 6 o'clock	10 " at s.	5, W.	Do.
18,	" 6 b. at snrse.	10 b. N.N.W.	Do.
19, at sunrise,	10 above,	W.S.W.	Cloudy
20,	23	S.W.	Do.
21,	28	W.	Do.
22,	40	N.E.	Do.
23,	12	Do.	Snowing.
24,	13	S.W.	Fair.
25,	6	W.	Do.
26,	0	N.W.	Do.
27,	2 below,	Do.	Do.
28,	0	N.	Do. & frosty.
29,	18 above,	N.W.	Snow'd in night, Do.
30,	32	N.E.	Rainy.
31,	28	S.W.	Rained in night, Fair.

Average degree of cold above 0 10 8-31 or about 10 1-4 degrees. Thermometer kept under an open portico in front of S. M. Pond's house with a Southern aspect, and about 15 rods from Penobscot river.

STATE OF MAINE.

In the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty.

An Act to limit the tenure of Military Office.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, That all Military officers who have been or hereafter may be commissioned, shall hold their respective offices for a term not longer than seven years from the date of their commission, unless reappointed or re-elected. Provided, that in case of vacancy of Major General in any Division, the commissions of the Brigadier Generals in such Divisions shall not terminate by the limitation aforesaid, until the office of Major General shall be filled by the Legislature. And the Commander in Chief is hereby authorized to discharge officers who have held or may hereafter hold commissions seven years as aforesaid. And this Act shall take effect from and after its approval by the Governor.

In the House of Representatives, February 21, 1840.

This Bill having had two several readings passed to be enacted. H. HAMLIN, Speaker.

In Senate, February 24, 1840.

This Bill having had two several readings, passed to be enacted. Stephen C. Foster, President.

February 24, 1840. Approved.

JOHN FAIRFIELD.

Secretary's Office,
Augusta, Feb. 25, 1840.

I certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the original in this Office. Attest,

P. C. JOHNSON, Sec'y of State.

POETRY.

Original.

MUSIC.

O Heav'nly theme! Rapt seraph's sweet employ!
Delight of earth—man's noblest, purest joy,—
Of thee I sing. Whence, or whence art thou not?
In what sphere, or by what race forgot?
Thro' Heaven's high arch, where seraphs, angels dwell,
Seraphic notes and loud hosannas swell.
On earth, in air, in ocean's boisterous roar,
As waves successive swell, and dash the shore,
Thy varied voice we hear. When joys elate,
Or Heaven crowns, with gifts, this mundane state,
In thee be render'd grateful, heart-felt praise,
And, in thanksgiving, loud the chorus raise.
When sorrows rise, and gloom the mind o'ercasts,
Kind friends depart, or Death each prospect blasts,
'Tis thine, sweet Music, in thy dulcet strain,
To touch life's spring, and it revive again.
When mem'ry fain would scan the book of life,
Lost friends recall, and scenes of joy or grief,
Direct her wand'rings. Discourse again
That once familiar, tender, pleasing strain,
That sorrows soothed, that charmed the youthful ear,
And scenes, long past, again shall reappear,
And friends, perchance now dead, to life shall rise,
And greet, with gloomy joy, our wand'ring eyes.
Nor men alone thy sweetest charms unfold,
Nor seraphs, with their glit'ring harps of gold;
The feathered songster's, with their untaught lays,
Unite their simple, pleasing melodies.
Yea, Nature joins the universal choir,
And shouts, tho' silently, with tacit lyre,
The praise of Him who *tuned creation's strings*,
And blends harmonious all created things,

East Winthrop, 1840. O. P. Q.

Original.

THE TEAR OF SYMPATHY.

Is there on earth a heart so cold,
So full of self, or vice, or gold,
As not to melt at others woe.
That bids the tear of friendship flow?
Is there on earth, one *female* heart
That would forget to act her part,
And when distress she chance to see
Weep not the tear of sympathy?

If such an one, female or male,
E'er on the sea of life doth sail,
How dark their fate, when tempest rise,
And forked lightnings shake the skies;
Count all their pleasure, all their gold,
And make that number, twice ten fold;
One sparkling gem more worth will be,
That *gem* the tear of sympathy.

Let Avarice boast her stores of wealth,
And Honor scale the clouds by stealth,—
Let Fortune chant her well known fate,
And favorites crown with robes of state—
Let others chace these phantoms wild,
With palace upon palace piled;
The humble cot my home shall be,
Where weeps the tear of sympathy.

Winthrop. U——s.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE ASPIRANT TO BE A MERCHANT.

'I will be a merchant; because that is the readiest way to make a fortune.' So says many a youth, when he first sets his foot in a store or counting room for the purpose of commencing his duties as clerk. But he should remember that like other questions of expediency, this, respecting the proper choice of a profession, has two sides to it. 'Much may be said on both sides;' as Sir Roger DeCoverly sagely remarks.

It is by no means a settled point, that it is always a desirable thing for a young man to make his fortune very rapidly, and even if it this were admitted, it is far from being certain that trade is the shortest, still less the surest way of amassing wealth at an early period of life. But wealth alone is not the main and proper object of any profession. It is not, and never should be considered the chief pursuit of life. A profession which furnishes employment and support, and affords the means of mental tranquility, and true honest independence, even if it should not lead to the acquisition of considerable wealth, is preferable both for time and eternity to that which sacrifices ease of mind, domestic happiness, or the slightest point of integrity, to the acquisition of millions.

'I will be a merchant, because the merchant leads an easy life.' This is another of the fallacious views, with which the youth embraces commerce as a profession. If he supposes the merchant may lead an indolent life and prosper, he is mistaken. If he supposes that there is not necessarily in this occupation a call for the exertion of a man's best energies of mind and body, he is under a gross delusion. If he supposes that the merchant must not exert himself exclusively and to the full in his business, as far as is consistent with his duties as a man and a christian, in order to ensure success, he has formed a very incorrect idea of the nature of this honorable and arduous pursuit. Commerce is not an easy, indolent, leisurely pursuit. That indeed would be no recommendation for a profession in which a son of ours was to engage. Commerce is an active and laborious occupation. We would not have it otherwise. We would not commend it on any other terms. 'Life,' says a shrewd observer of men and things, 'life without some necessity for exertion, must ever lack real interest.' That state is capable of the greatest enjoyment, where necessity urges, but not painfully; where effort is required, but as much as possible without anxiety; where the spring and summer of life are preparatory to the harvest of autumn and the repose of winter.

'I will be a merchant, because it is an elegant and genteel profession.' The merchant's is a genteel and elegant profession, because it is consistent with the true character of a gentleman, and it admits of elegant and intellectual tastes. But neither this, or any other profession, in our free country, is elegant and genteel enough to confer respectability on any man who is not entitled to the respect of society by his own intrinsic merit. Among us in these United States, there is no prescriptive gentility. The only way to be *considered* a gentleman is *to be* a gentleman. The only nobility here is the nobility of character and talent, and thanks to the virtue and foresight of our ancestors, a man in the humblest walk of life may gain more real respect from the community in which he lives, and more marks of public confidence and esteem, too, than an individual who disgraces the highest station by vice or mere vacuity.—Hartford Patriot.

UNIVERSAL ATTRIBUTES OF WOMEN.—I have observed among all nations, that the women ornament themselves more than the men; that, wherever found they are the same, kind, civil, obliging, humane, tender beings; that they are ever inclined to be gay and cheerful, timorous and modest.—They do not hesitate, like men, to perform a hospitable or generous action; nor haughty nor arrogant nor supercilious, but full of courtesy, and fond of society; industrious, economical ingenious; more liable in general to err than man, but in general also, more virtuous, and performing more good actions than he. I never addressed myself, in the language of decency and friendship, to a woman, whether civilized or savage, without receiving a decent answer. With man it has often been otherwise.

In wandering over the barren plains of inhospitable Denmark, through honest Sweden, frozen Lapland, rude and churlish Finland, Russia, and the wide spread regions of the wandering Tartar, if hungry, dry, cold, wet or sick, woman has ever been friendly to me and uniformly so; and to add to this virtue, so worthy the appellation of benevolence, these actions have been performed in so free and kind a manner that, if I was dry, I drank the sweet draught, and, if hungry, ate the coarse morsel with double relish.—Ledyard's Siberian Journal.

'Old Kingsbury' was remarkable for dry humor. As he passed a rye field one morning in August, he saw the *lawyer* of the village surveying his possessions. Says the lawyer—'what makes you carry your head stooping upon your breast friend K.? You see ME!—I carry mine erect and upright.' Squire, answered Kingsbury, look at that field of grain! The full ears hang down like mine. But the empty heads stand up, like your own!

Lake Jackson, a considerable body of water near Tallahassee in Florida, has disappeared. The lake must have sprung aleak.

STATE OF MAINE.—RESOLVE IN RELATION TO MILITARY PENSIONS. Resolved, That the Committee on Military Pensions, be and they are hereby instructed to adopt the same Rules and Regulations, and to require the same evidence, so far as practicable, in all applications for pecuniary relief in consequence of injuries received in the actual service of the State for the protection of the North Eastern Frontier, as are prescribed by an act entitled "An Act to provide for persons who were disabled by known wounds received in the revolutionary war," passed March 10th, 1806.

In the House of Representatives, February 7, 1840.
Read and passed.
CHAS. ANDREWS, Speaker pro. tem.
In Senate, February 8, 1840. Read and passed.
STEPHEN C. FOSTER, President.
February 12, 1840. Approved.
JOHN FAIRFIELD.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
Augusta, February 12, 1840.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the original in this Department.

Attest, PHILIP C. JOHNSON, *Sec'y* of State.

In pursuance of an Order of the Legislature, the publishers of all "public newspapers which publish the Laws of this State," are requested to publish the above Resolve.

PHILIP C. JOHNSON, Sec'y of State.

The Maine Farmer,

And Journal of the Useful Arts,

IS PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT WINTHROP
By NOYES & ROBBINS;
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